BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F O R T H E

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER

1 9 6 8

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H. DIGGLES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

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BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

North Riding of Yorkshire

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the

year ending

31st December, 1968

To The Chairman and Members of the
Bedale Rural District Council

SIR, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1968.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

(1) One Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)
(2) One Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector (Full-time)
(3) Two Additional Public Health Inspectors (Full-time)
(4) One Meat Inspector/Technical Assistant (Full-time)
(5) One Meat Inspector (Full-time)

STATISTICS.

Area	43,302 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid 1968)	9,060
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books (end of 1968)	2,701
Rateable value of the Area	£299,539. 0. 0d.
Product of a Penny Rate	£1,197. 17. 9d.

VITAL STATISTICS (as supplied by Registrar General)

	MALES			FEMALES		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	80	78	2	90	82	8
Still Births	1	1	-	-	-	-
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year	3	3	-	-	-	-
Under 4 weeks	2	2	-	-	-	-
Under 1 week	1	1	-	-	-	-

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSES OF DEATH

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-	1
" " Lung, Bronchus	-	1	1
" " Breast	-	4	4
" " Uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms etc.	1	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	-	2	2
Diabetes Mellitus	1	-	1
Anaemias	-	1	1
Cerebrovascular Disease	4	10	14
Ischaemic Heart Disease	16	9	25
Other Forms of Heart Disease	-	2	2
Pneumonia	5	4	9
Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	2	4
Influenza	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	3	-	3
Mental Disorders	-	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1	1
Accidents	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	3	6
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1	1
	38	45	83

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

It was not necessary to take action under Section 27 of the above Act which gives the Council power to remove to suitable premises, persons who are not able to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons, adequate care and attention.

GENERAL PROVISION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory Facilities (b) Hospitals (c) Clinics & Treatment Centres
(d) Ambulance Services (e) Nursing Services

These are provided Nationally and by the County Council and are reasonably adequate although subject to strain in a large and somewhat sparsely populated area, with infrequent local public transport.

SCHOOLS.

The County Council Education Department are responsible for Schools and have effected considerable improvements to which the Council has given assistance.

DATA SUPPLIED BY THE SURVEYOR & CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

WATER SUPPLY.

The mains supply to the area is under the control of the Northallerton and the Dales Water Board and it is available to practically the whole of the District. 2,655 houses are connected to the supply and approximately 100 houses are without a mains supply although the majority of these have private piped supplies available.

The mains supply has been generally satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity and all samples taken have proved satisfactory when submitted for analysis.

Samples taken from two private supplies, both of which had recently been extended or altered, did not at first prove satisfactory as regards quality. In both cases further work was carried out which resulted in the water reaching the required bacteriological standard. Samples are

periodically taken from private supplies to ensure that the water is fit for human consumption.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Construction work on the Scruton Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme commenced in March and is proceeding steadily but rapid progress has not been possible due to the bad ground conditions which have been encountered and the wet Spring and early Summer period. At the end of the year it was becoming increasingly obvious that the Scheme would not be completed on time although every effort is being made to bring the sewers into use as soon as possible.

Conditions in the areas where the recently constructed Schemes are now operating are rapidly improving, privy ashpits are disappearing and bathrooms and water closets are being installed. This work is encouraged by the Council's willingness to make Standard Grants available. Privy Conversion Grants are also given in cases where the Standard Grant would not apply.

It is hoped that work will be commenced on the Burneston, Carthorpe and Theakston Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme during the coming year and tenders are now being invited for carrying out the Scheme.

A Scheme has been prepared for the village of Kirklington together with a Combined Scheme for the villages of Nosterfield, Thornborough and West Tanfield and it is anticipated that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government will hold an informal inquiry to deal with the Kirklington Scheme early in the new year. It is hoped that these Schemes will be allowed to proceed in the 1970/71 period so that the Council's programme for sewering the whole of its Area can be maintained.

The villages of Burrill, Thirn, Well, Hackforth and Exelby will then still remain to be dealt with and it is the Council's intention that these Schemes should go ahead as already programmed.

The outfalls from all the villages still to be dealt with continue to pollute water-courses and constitute health hazards which can only increase as new houses are built and more and more properties are provided with modern amenities.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse is collected once per week from all properties in the area and bins are collected and returned to their place of storage on the premises concerned. Bulky items of household refuse are collected by arrangement with the householder and special visits are made for this purpose when necessary.

Ashpits are cleaned out at approximately six weekly intervals and happily these are steadily decreasing in number as Sewerage Schemes are completed.

Considerable difficulty in maintaining the service arose towards the end of the year when one of the Collection Vehicles was seriously damaged in a road accident and had to be written-off. The vehicle driver sustained severe leg injuries and is still unable to work. One loader was also injured but not so seriously and he should be able to return to work early in the New Year. The Council were fortunate in being able to hire a similar pattern of vehicle for 3½ days per week and by re-arranging collection programmes and overtime working it has been possible to maintain a service, although ashpits have had to be completely neglected.

This unfortunate accident could have caused a complete breakdown in the refuse collection service but for the willing co-operation of the Firm who re-arranged their work schedules to make the hire vehicle available and the ready and cheerful manner in which the Council's Refuse Collection Employees accepted the difficulties and inconvenience of overtime working during the dark Winter months.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping at Leeming Bar where the tip is controlled and levelled with a tractor fitted with a 'dozer' type bucket. The tip is regularly treated to control vermin and very little trouble is experienced with rats.

HOUSING.

The area continues to attract new housing development and during the year 42 private houses and 17 Council houses have been completed.

Housing standards in the area are generally satisfactory and improvement of older houses is encouraged. In this connection, three Discretionary and five Standard Grants have been made available during the year. Some 350 houses in the area have now been improved with the aid of Grants since these first became available.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Two large slaughtering premises and one smaller slaughterhouse operate in the area and the production of meat continues to be an important industry. A 100% meat inspection service is operated by Authorised Meat Inspectors employed by the Council.

During the year 65,685 food animals were slaughtered and Appendix No. 1, attached to this report gives details of the animals included in the above figure and the meat condemned as unfit for human consumption.

POULTRY INSPECTION.

Only very small numbers of Poultry are slaughtered in the area, the majority being 'rough dressed' for the catering trade. Under the present circumstances routine inspection of these birds is not practicable.

FOOD HYGIENE.

Four bakehouses are in operation in the area together with five premises producing meat products such as sausages, cooked meats, etc. All are inspected at regular intervals and are satisfactory.

Food shops are also visited from time to time and any minor faults which have been found have been quickly rectified.

Milk is supplied to the area ready bottled by the large Dairies and is distributed by local retailers. The bottled milk is stored, when necessary, in refrigerators on the retailers' premises and no action concerning the milk supply generally has been necessary.

There are no plants in the District dealing with liquid egg and no action under the Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations has therefore been necessary.

Details of the Premises in the area which are affected by the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960 are set out below, together with information regarding compliance with Sections 16 & 19 of the Regulations.

Type of Premises	No. in area	Sec. 16 only applying	Sec. 16 & 19 applying
Fish & Chip Shops	2		2
Grocer	28	3	25
Confectionery & Sweets	3		3
Fruit & Vegatables	3		3
Sweets & Tobacco	4	2	2
Butcher & Cooked Meats	8		8
Baker	3		3
Public Houses	24		24
Caterers	6		6
Total	81	5	76

All premises satisfy the requirements of Sections 16 and 19 of the Regulations in that washing facilities are in, or are reasonably accessible to the premises concerned.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT.

51 premises, employing 180 persons were registered at the end of the year and 32 visits to inspect these premises were made during the year. One exemption is in force under the Act in respect of sanitary accommodation at a small lock-up shop.

FACTORIES ACT.

A statement, Appendix No. 2, showing particulars on the administration of the Act in this area is attached to the report. The statement under Part 8 of the Act is a Nil return and has therefore been omitted.

APPENDIX I

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year ending DECEMBER, 1968

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3,840	57	64	12,354	49,270
Number inspected	3,840	57	64	12,354	49,270
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis Whole carcases condemned	12	5	36	91	234
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2,648	5	3	2,110	9,313
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	33.25	8.52	56.25	17.816	19.33
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	1			1	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	39				2,171
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.04			.0008	4.40
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	19				
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	19				

APPENDIX II

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	Nil	Nil
(ii). Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	35	21	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	16	25	Nil	Nil
Total.....	53	48	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2			
Overcrowding (S.2.)	Nil				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	Nil				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	Nil				

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	Nil				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil				
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3			
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil				
Total.....	3	3			

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Disease	Total Cases
Pneumonia	6
Scarlet Fever	3
Whooping Cough	7
Measles	48
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1

In conclusion I should like to record my thanks to your Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. F. Dunning, for his valuable help throughout the year.

I have the honour to be Sir, Mesdames and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. DIGGLES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.